

# **INVERKIP AND WEMYSS BAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL Minutes of the Business Meeting held on Thursday 2nd of August 2012 at Wemyss Bay Community Centre at 7pm**

**Present:** Hugh Ritchie; Ron Potter; David Adams; Jean Anderson, Gordon Rodgers; Eileen Virtue, Telfer Ramage and Tracy Buntun

**2. Apologies for absence:** none

**In attendance:** Cllr Gerry Dorrian; Cllr Innes Nelson; Cllr Ciano Rebecchi; Sgt Susan McPhee Community Police; Kevin Hutchison and Jan Graham Community Health Care Partnership (CHCP), Inverclyde Council; Iain Wilkinson (Ardgowan Estate land agent), Savills; and four members of the public

### **3. Idzholm Woodland**

Iain Wilkinson, land agent, explained that Ardgowan Estate have been served with a Statutory Plant Health Notice relating to an infection of phytophthora ramorum on approximately 12 hectares of larch, this being the woodland on the hill above Bankfoot and down the side of the Kip to Bridgend.

The action required is to clear fell the site to remove the infected trees in an attempt to control the spread of the disease affecting the west coast of Great Britain, devastating visual impacts on this hill and to the village in general.

For technical reasons relating to mitigating the spread of the disease, although not possible it has been recommended to fell the site by the end of August in order to control the spread however it does demonstrate the urgency of the matter. Iain confirmed that the site would be cleared and re-planted with broad leaf trees, in an attempt to limit the adverse appearance. It was confirmed that the site is too steep to cause landslide.

Hugh agreed that IWBC will organise a wider public meeting to allow representatives from the Forestry Commission to give a presentation on this matter, demonstrating the importance of bio-security.

Hugh agreed to liaise with Iain to agree a suitable date for a public meeting.

### **4. Police Matters:**

Sgt. McPhee reported the following statistics from the 6<sup>th</sup> of June 2012 to date:

Incidents – 179

Incidents of note:

Assist members of the public – 29

Complaints – 31

Disturbances – 3

Road Accidents – 8

Number of crimes – 29 with 13 detections. Further police enquiries are ongoing

Instances of note:

These crimes consisted of:

3 Common Assault – all detected

1 offence under the Firearms Act 1988 (possessing a firearm in a public place) - detected

1 offence under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (possession) – detected  
3 vandalisms – no detections and enquiries ongoing  
8 thefts – 1 detection and enquiries ongoing  
3 offences under the Road Traffic Act 1988 – 3 detections  
2 Breach of Peace – detected  
2 Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act – no detections, enquiries ongoing  
1 Offence under Section 57 Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 – detected

Sgt McPhee shared the following:

- Confirmation that it is an offence to ride small motorcycles on public land and that incidents including those in the Wemyss Bay wooded land should be reported.
- Power Station break-ins – confirmation that police were present.
- Police and Fire service presence at Kip Marina earlier in the summer – no incident to note
- Confirmation that police are responsible for road closures and feedback is welcomed to help find more suitable solutions.

Sgt McPhee requested that all incidents are reported to Strathclyde Police.

## **5. Alcohol Overprovision Consultation – Inverclyde Council CHCP**

Kevin Hutchison, Officer thanked the meeting for allowing the opportunity to consult about the community about the need for Inverclyde Council to have a policy on the Overprovision of Alcohol. Kevin explained that it is useful for the authority to have such a policy when considering alcohol license applications. Kevin delivered a presentation outlining trends in alcohol purchase, local consumption and the societal impacts. The majority of IWBCC and members of the public gave a show of hands indicating they are in favour of Inverclyde Council developing an Alcohol Overprovision policy. Kevin agreed that the CHCP will involve/consult the community with the development of a policy if it is decided to proceed with this.

## **6. Planning Matters**

Mrs Wallace owner of The Foresters House B&B gave an account of the effects she predicts the proposed Traffic Road Orders on Station Road will have on her business. Much discussion took place about the ability to drop off and load with the matter being confused further with the news that enforceable 'zig zags' will be in place outside the school directly opposite the Foresters. It was agreed that Tracy will email Robert Graham, Inverclyde Council's Service Manager, Environmental and Commercial Services inviting him to join the next meeting of IWBCC to clarify the position to enable informed submissions to be made to the TRO hearing. Gordon will arrange a copy of the 'zig zag' notice to be displayed in the notice-board and will send by email to Mrs Wallace.

Gordon detailed the planning matters.

## **7. Minutes of Business Meeting held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2012 – proposed as accurate by David Adams and seconded by Gordon Roders.**

**Matters arising: there were no matters arising not covered by the agenda.**

## **8. Secretary's Report**

- Inverclyde Council Grants Committee – it was noted that £2,000 has been awarded to Inverkip Bowling Club.
- It was noted that North Ayrshire Council refused planning permission for the proposed power station.
- Letter received from TGC acknowledging receipt of IWBCC Wind Turbine policy/statement.
- CVS invite to make contact with IWBCC – Eileen agreed to contact CVS.
- Letter confirming the transfer of responsibility for Data Protection from former Community Councillor Mrs Chambers to Gordon Roders.

- A number of Inverclyde Council agendas and reports were listed, no matters for discussion.

### **9. Treasurer's Report and Expenses discussion**

Ron Potter gave the following report:

- The balance of CC grant is expected by the end of August 2012. This was confirmed by Cllr Rebecchi.
- The CC's bank account balance is £493.83 at 4.7.12 – no expenses outstanding.
- Mrs Chambers removed as signatory on IWBCB Bank Account and replaced by Community Councillor Gordon Roders

In his capacity of treasurer of Inverclyde Forum of Community Councils Ron reported that it is more than 12 months since the group met. He proposes to reconvene to reach agreement to disband.

Ron raised the issue of CC expense payment once again. It was suggested that inexpensive mobile phones are purchased for CC office bearers. It was agreed that this matter is carried forward to the next meeting to conclude the discussion.

### **10. A78 Speed Limit**

There were no new matters for discussion. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to Duncan McNeil MSP asking for an update from June's meeting. This would be followed if needed with a letter asking for the assistance of all 3 MSPs.

### **11. Leitchland Wind Turbine – LB&BCC**

Despite requesting attendance at the meeting there was no representation from LB&BCC. It was agreed by vote of 5 to 3 to object to the planning request. Gordon agreed to submit an objection to the planning consultation on behalf of IWBCB.

### **12. Date and time of next meeting – Thursday 6 September 2012 at 7pm in Inverkip Primary School.**

#### **10. AOCB**

1. **Daff Glen:** Eileen reported that an outline plan has been agreed and that a funding application is in progress.
2. **Traffic Calming – Wemyss Bay Primary School** – Cllr Rebecchi reported that traffic calming measures around Wemyss Bay Primary will be in place for the school opening.
3. **Jacobs Ladder** – Telfer reported that he is expecting an update from Charlie Cairns, Inverclyde Council in relation to the Scotways' opinion that the route is a right of way and must be maintained.
4. **IWBCB Vacancy** – it was agreed that this matter would be carried to October's meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 10:00pm.